

THE OPENING OF THE BINGA STATE BANK

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Binga

Mr. Jesse Binga, President of the Binga State Bank, was born in Detroit, Michigan, coming from one of its oldest and most highly respected families, receiving his common and high school education in the city of his birth; in time he received his early real estate training in the real estate business by assisting his mother and father Mr. William and Mrs. Adolph Binga; in 1901 Mr. Binga decided to permanently locate in Chicago, and cast his lot with its hustling and enterprising citizens, and the first year after becoming a resident of the Windy City, he became a curbstome broker in garden vegetables, in fact he was a huckster and with his horse and wagon he sold garden truck up and down the streets on the south side, to many of the people who are now occupying many of his houses and stores either owned by him or under his control.

In the winter of 1902 he decided to launch out in the real estate business, and he opened a small office at 3333 S. State street. His capital at that time consisted of a half month's rent three old rickety chairs, a small flat top table, an old worn out stove resting on two legs, and a brick, but being a hustler and full of courage and pluck Mr. Binga began to do business and make money right from the start.

On May 1, 1905, he leased the Bates Building, 3635 and 3637 S. State St., where he moved his real estate office and he caused the white tenants to vacate and colored tenants followed after them and from that day to the present time the complexion of the whole neighborhood has changed up and Mr. Binga opened the way for

colored people to reside on every street and avenue from State street east to Lake Michigan.

In 1908, Mr. Binga removed his real estate office into the present three-story brick building which was erected according to his instructions which is now occupied by the Binga State Bank, State and 36th Place. Shortly after that time Mr. Binga opened his private bank and safety deposit vaults and he ably conducted his bank from that year until Jan. 3, 1921, at which time it was transformed into the Binga State Bank. President Binga has long since proven himself to be by far the most successful and conservative Afro-American banker in the United States.

President Binga and his good wife Mrs. Binga who is one of our warmest lady friends in this city, at the present time pay taxes on more than seven hundred thousand dollars worth of Chicago real estate, their frontage on State street amounts to almost one thousand feet and there are very few persons in this city who owns such a long frontage on that rapidly improving thoroughfare, and Mr. and Mrs. Binga who are a great credit to the Afro-American race, own large blocks of stock in some of the largest and most substantial business concerns in this city.

The officers and directors of the Binga State Bank are as follows: Mr. Jesse Binga, President; Col. John R. Marshall, Vice-president; Mr. C. N. Langston, Cashier. Directors: Jesse Binga, John R. Marshall, Oscar Depriest, W. A. Robinson, R. S. Abbott, U. G. Dailey, C. N. Langston, H. R. Smith and Rev. C. H. Clark.



THE ABOVE FLASHLIGHT PICTURE OF THE OPENING OF THE BINGA STATE BANK MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1921, WAS TAKEN EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE BROAD AX. READING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MR. JULIUS F. TAYLOR; SECOND, MR. M. T. JOHNSON; THIRD, MISS MARVELYN CANTEY; FOURTH, MISS INEZ CANTEY; FIFTH, THE SILVER LOVING CUP PRESENTED TO MR. BINGA BY HIS FORMER EMPLOYEES; SIXTH, MR. JESSE BINGA, PRESIDENT OF THE BINGA STATE BANK OF CHICAGO; SEVENTH, MISS VIOLET GALLOWAY; EIGHTH, MISS LUCILE ADAMS; NINTH, MR. HARRY GAINES; TENTH, MRS. LUCILE FARMER; ELEVENTH, MR. WM. JONES; TWELFTH, MR. JOHN BELL.

WHY MEN BECOME CANNIBALS

Writer Asserts Cause is Natural Craving for Meat Where There is a Scant Supply.

Why does man become a cannibal? Mr. W. D. M. Bell, a contributor to "Country Life," thinks that the cause is constant craving for meat in a land where mostly grain abounds. He tells some interesting things about the extraordinary diet of the natives of the Bahr Aouk in Africa.

When they inhabit a stockless area, he says, they go for months without flesh, except of course for an occasional rat, mongoose or bird. In those circumstances the craving for meat naturally becomes intense and in my opinion is the cause of cannibalism.

When the people suddenly have almost unlimited meat, as they do have when they kill an elephant or a hippopotamus, they simply gorge themselves. A man will eat from fifteen to twenty pounds in twenty-four hours. All night long he will eat and doze and doze again. As a result his skin turns a peculiar dull color, and his eyes become yellow. On the third day he has completely recovered his natural appearance and is again full of energy.

In a short time he wants his grain food again and if he has the choice will eat a large portion of grain to a small portion of meat. If, as with the elephant, there is much fat with the meat, the natives are likely to become extremely fat on that diet. For example, for sixty-three days of consecutive marching a kilangori, or head porter, of mine who was of slight build carried his mat, his blanket, fifteen pounds of rations and a tusk that weighed one hundred and forty-eight pounds! The shortest day was five hours, and some days were very long indeed. For rations throughout the march he had two pounds of native grain every day and as much meat and elephant fat as he cared for. His physical condition was magnificent throughout.—From the Youth's Companion.

LAMENTS CHANGE IN FASHION

Captain Dingle Says Paris Dress Craze Has Hit South Sea Island Femininity, Too.

Capt. Charles Dingle of the freighter Bay Port, which arrived in Port Newark from Hawaii and the South Sea Islands, brought a dismal tale of the ravages of fashion in those once gulleless and innocent regions. It's the Paris-born craze for long skirts, says Cap'n Dingle and his crew, that has sophisticated the spicily isles. "They're wearin' them straw dresses all right," explained Skip Slattery, first assistant chief engineer of the freighter, "but they're wearin' 'em like a wine bottle useta be—from neck to heels, you might say. Then they got a new-style petticoat made o' moss. Oh, it ain't like what it used to be!"

Even Lucky Bill Fanning, optimist that he is, joined in the threnody. It was enough to make an old-time sailorman shed tears, he said, to see the girls all wadded up in straw and moss like that. Why, he could remember when putting in at some of those islands was better than a Fourteenth street burlesque, but now it was duller than Tenneck.—New York Tribune.

Loss Would Be Irreparable

There is much curiosity and anxiety to know what has become of the famous Codex Sinaiticus, which was, before the Russian revolution, in the Imperial library at Petrograd. This most ancient manuscript of the Bible was discovered in the monastery of St. Catherine, on Mount Sinai, whence its name, and was acquired by Tsar Alexander II in 1800. What has become of this precious document during the Russian revolution?

More than the loss of the jewels of the last Russian dynasty its destruction would be an irreparable act, even though there is another similar document, known as the "Vaticanus," an uncial manuscript of the Fourth century, found by Tischendorf in 1844 in the same monastery.

Economic Error.

New Jersey's forests are being burned up at the rate of 70,000 acres a year, which means not only that her area of growing forests is being reduced annually to that extent, but that land which should become a public asset of great value is being converted into a public liability of unsightly and embarrassing proportions. There are 2,000,000 acres of forest land in New Jersey almost within trucking distance of the greatest lumber market in the world, according to the estimate of the American Forestry association, which offers the opinion that sooner or later the people of the state of New Jersey will awaken to the economic significance of the fact, but that the awakening may come too late.—Thrill Magazine.

When Merchants Cooled Own Money.

The action of the German government in allowing certain firms to print their own money in small denominations recalls a somewhat similar state of affairs in the early years of George III in England.

In those days the amount of copper coin in circulation was inadequate, and tradesmen all over the country issued tokens of their own which attained almost equal standing with the royal coinage. One manufacturer in Birmingham issued over 9,000,000 pennies and 3,500,000 half-pennies in the course of a few years and the amount of "tokens" in circulation in 1780 outnumbered the genuine coinage.



HON. JAMES E. BISH

Hon. James E. Bish, 33, has been connected with the Ernest H. Williamson undertaking establishment for the past six years as Bookkeeper, he is a conservative business man of exceptional ability, was a member of the Illinois Legislature in the 38th General Assembly, and 17 years with the Smoke Bureau of Chicago, and was often called out of town to give expert testimony in Smoke damage law suits. He is Past Commander-in-Chief of Western Consistory No. 28, A. A. S. R., Past Grand Captain General of Prince Hall, Grand Commandry of Knights Templars of Illinois, Past R. W. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Masons of this state, Secretary of The Union Masonic Temple Ass'n. The organizer of the old 9th Battalion, now the 8th Regiment Ill. Nat'l Guards, Past Grand Master of the United Brothers of Friendship. Politically Mr. Bish is a Republican and taken quite an active part in the Brundage, Crowe, Deneen collation affairs in the past year. He is credited with being a prominent Masonic Jurist among the Colored Masons of Illinois. A resident of Chicago since 1881.

DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO LOVE

Gilbert Frankau Believes the Young Woman of Today is Not Capable of Self-Sacrifice.

You have to watch the modern dance to see the modern girl at her most self-revealing. Regard her carefully, this beheaded, bepowdered, be-manicured product of our hectic age, as she circles the ballroom. She dances emotionally, but her emotions are for the rhythm and the music, not for the mere male, her partner. Even in a man's arms she is as nearly sexless as the ladies of the Lysistrata. Gilbert Frankau writes in the Forum. Regarding her thus, one cannot help answering the question which stands at the head of this article in the most emphatic negative. No! Give her all her good qualities, her poise, her efficiency, her intelligence and you will still be forced to admit that—judging her superficially—the modern girl is not capable of a great and enduring love. To begin with, she is too selfish, too self-centered, too set on the pursuit of what she considers pleasure, to abandon herself to that self-sacrifice which is love at its best. And then, perhaps, she is too wise.

Myself, I am and have always been, a strong supporter of the civil contract in matrimony. Matrimony, after all, is—however much sentimental, middle-aged fogies like myself may like to regard it as a pure love affair—a legal undertaking. And I think that it is high time for the young man of today to understand that his legal undertaking when he marries a self-supporting or an independent young woman is not confined purely and simply to housing her. The modern woman, you see, is something more than a mere domesticated pet. She requires her leisure, her pleasures and, more perhaps even than these, her full partnership rights.



COL. MILTON T. BAILEY, PRESIDENT BAILEY REALTY COMPANY, 3638 S. STATE STREET, ONE OF THE DEADEND BOOMERS OF MORGAN PARK, WHERE HE IS ALWAYS ABLE TO SELL HOUSES AND LOTS AT GREAT BARGAINS. COL. BAILEY WISHES ALL OF HIS MANY FRIENDS AND PATRONS MUCH JOY AND HAPPINESS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON.—ADV.

LESS BLINDNESS IN COUNTRY

Figures Reveal a Gratifying Decrease of Terrible Affliction Throughout the United States.

Imagine, if you can, a city of 120,000 inhabitants, where every single soul is totally blind; where doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief, along with the rich man, poor man, beggarman and thief, are all in the same boat—sightless!

America has the makings of just such a city. There are more than 120,000 totally blind people in the United States, and many times that number partly blind. The terrible part of it is that more than 57 per cent of blindness is classed as preventable, a large portion being the result of eyestrain.

It is encouraging to note, however, that blindness in America has decreased more than 20 per cent since glasses have become more common. Every other country has a far greater percentage of blindness, and they show a yearly increase. Three of every ten Americans wear glasses. Statistics prove that seven of each ten have enough eyestrain to warrant the wearing of correcting lenses. When we realize the relation of good vision to health and happiness, it is hard to understand why so many people neglect their eyes until they are permanently injured. In the first draft of American soldiers in 1917 bad sight caused nearly three times as many rejections as any other physical defect. At the time of the draft 2,510,706 men were examined and 21.68 per cent were rejected because of grossly defective vision.—Illustrated World.

"Pardners."

In these days of bonding companies and enormous corporations the old phrase, "His word was as good as his bond," has a homely sound, and little tales of long partnership with never a hard and fast legal instrument naming what is his and what is other's, seem like old tales out of the past.

But the other day when Sam Harris and George M. Cohen dissolved their seventeen-year-old partnership, they ended a period of agreement in their joint producing business in which no contract ever existed, and yet their business was one where more cantankerous hitches occur than in most. Smooth as the seas when two men, each of whose word goes, do business together.—Christian Science Monitor.

Caribou Swarm in Yukon.

Tens of thousands of wild caribou are reported to be swarming over the hills through the suburbs of Dawson, Y. T., for a radius of 50 miles. The great herd, which annually treks through the district, is now moving northward. Large herds swimming the Yukon have interfered with the progress of steamers. The herd is so vast that the hunting by men, women and children, who have provided nearly every home with deer meat for the winter, has made no noticeable effect on it.

Lost Souls.

A spiritist tells us that people play golf in the life hereafter. If they use the same language while playing it that they do here, we think we know in which division of the hereafter the game is played.—James J. Montague.

BRUSHES FOR HOUSEHOLD

They May Be Divided Into Three Classes, Which Are Bristle, Hair, and Fiber.

There are two classes of brushes, those with backs and those without. These come in bristle, in hair and in fiber. It is fiber and bristles that are of special interest in discussing household needs.

The backless brush has the advantage of being usable in any position and thereby being at least twice as long-lived as the brush whose only working surface is one side. These brushes are marvelously made and the bristles, hair, fiber or fabric (mops) are so fastened in as to make a falling bristle almost an impossibility. These brushes come in every department of house life: toilet, bath, pantry, laundry, clothes, kitchen, halls and walls. The Russian pony gives the best horse-hair, and the wild boar gives the most and best bristles. The test for the bristle is that it will not break if bent back and will spring into place again. The hair and bristle when burned give a characteristic hair odor.

The fiber brush, though a cheaper brush, is adapted to things for which the bristle brush is not adapted. The fiber makes a good scrubbing brush, but the bristle would not be stiff enough. Many fibers are made to look like bristle, but the bristle test will save you from a rash purchase. The bristle brush is expensive and so is the brush of camel or badger hair from which painting and shaving brushes are made.

Radium From Bohemia.

Government-owned mines at Jachymov, Bohemia, are turning out uranium ore, rich in radium, and the known supply is said to be sufficient for 20 years at the present rate of production; in addition, there are three large mines not yet prospected as to depth. These facts are given out by the Scientific American. Two grams of radium a year are now being produced and net profits to the Czechoslovak republic for the past year were about 3,500,000 crowns. The radium is selling today at 10,000,000 crowns per gram, a crown being now worth about 1.94 cents. While production in the United States is greater in quantity, the Jachymov ores are reputed to be richer in quality.

Going One Better.

One of the brightest "stars" in "The Island King" at the Adelphi theater is Nancie Lovat. She sings and acts charmingly.

I paid Miss Lovat a visit the other evening, and she asked me if I had "heard this one." I hadn't.

Two kiddies were engaged in a bragging match.

"My mummy's gone to the shops to pay some bills," said Joan, proudly.

"My mummy doesn't have to," sneered Doris. "The men come to the house for ours."

Here is another of Miss Lovat's stories.

"George!" murmured the girl, as she nestled close to him, "cigars are nothing but a habit."

"Yes, and you've now broken one of my habits," said the young man, as he sadly withdrew the remains of a Havana from his pocket.—London Tit Bits.



THE FRONT OR INTERIOR VIEW OF THE BINGA STATE BANK OF CHICAGO.